

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 06610 261028Z

10

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 PA-02 OPR-02

INR-07 INRE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 /043 W

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O 260832Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1333

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS BEIRUT 6610

FOR S/PRS, NEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, LE, US

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF DEPARTURE OF FOREIGNERS

REF: STATE 184210

1. MAJOR BEIRUT PAPERS APPEARING JULY 26 GIVE WIDE COVERAGE TO JULY 27 DEPARTURE OF FOREIGNERS, DRAWING ON WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT, ON ADDITIONAL STATEMENT BY DEPARTMENTAL SPOKESMAN AND AMBASSADOR SEELYE (LOCALLY ATTRIBUTED TO AMBASSADOR HIMSELF), AND ON EMBASSY SPOKESMAN'S RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS AS DRAWN FROM PRESS GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT.

2. COVERAGE IS GENERALLY ACCURATE, ALTHOUGH MOST PAPERS INTERPRET EMBASSY SPOKESMAN'S CONFIRMATION THAT "THE PARTIES WITH WHOM YOU HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH" INCLUDE "THE PLO" AS ADMISSION OF DIRECT RPT DIRECT CONTACT. SPOKESMAN HIMSELF MADE NO SUCH ADMISSION.

3. SIMILARLY, ALTHOUGH SPOKESMAN RESPONDED TO QUESTION ON WHETHER "YOU EXPECT THE SITUATION TO TAKE A TURN FOR THE WORSE" PRECISELY AS INSTRUCTED, I.E.:" NOT NECESSARILY, BUT WE JUDGE THAT IT IS PRUDENT IN LIGHT OF THE UNPREDICTABILITY AND DIFFICULTIES OF LIVING IN WEST BEIRUT TO EVACUATE AS MANY AMERICANS AS POSSIBLE NOW",
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SEVERAL PAPERS INTERPRETED "UNPREDICTABILITY" TO REFER

TO POLITICAL AND MILITARY SITUATION. WE ARE CONTINUING
TO TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP RECORD STRAIGHT Y
EMPHASIZING THAT WE ARE NOT IN POSSESSION OF SPECIAL
KNOWLEDGE ON POLITICAL AND MILITARY SITUATION AND ARE
URGING AMERICANS TO LEAVE SOLELY ON BASIS OF DETERIORATION
OF LIVING CONDITIONS.
SEELYE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: n/a
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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Film Number: D760286-0624
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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